

Message Text

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15

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 DPW-01 SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /136 W

----- 032696

R 142238Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9002

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 3494

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI, PINS, SOCI

SUBJECT: TRIALS

1. SUMMARY: SENTENCES RANGING UP TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT ISSUED FOR 21 DEFENDANTS IN MINOR AIR FORCE TRIAL. NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN MAJOR AIR FORCE TRIAL. HOWEVER, FIRST PUBLIC MENTION OF "SECOND PHASE" OF THIS TRIAL APPEARED JUNE 11. ICRC SOURCES CONFIRM EXISTENCE OF CLOSED TRIAL NOW TAKING PLACE IN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE. END SUMMARY.

2. SENTENCES FOR 21 DEFENDANTS IN AIR FORCE CONSEJO DE GUERRA (FACH II) HELD AT SUPPLY WING OF EL BOSQUE AFB (SANTIAGO 2680) WERE ISSUED JUNE 13. SENTENCES RANGE FROM LIFE IMPRISONMENT TO 41 DAYS; TWO DEFENDANTS WERE FOUND NOT GUILTY. TRIBUNAL INCREASED RPT INCREASED PENALTIES OVER THOSE REQUESTED BY PROSECUTOR FOR THOSE THREE RECEIVING LIFE SENTENCES; PROSECUTOR HAD REQUESTED 18 YEARS FOR TWO OF THESE DEFENDANTS AND 9 FOR THE OTHER. HOWEVER, TRIBUNAL REDUCED SENTENCES REQUESTED BY PROSECUTOR IN AT LEAST SEVEN CASES. MANY OF THOSE RECEIVING LIGHT SENTENCES WILL BE RELEASED IMMEDIATELY SINCE TIME ALREADY SPENT IN DETENTION EQUALS OR EXCEEDS SENTENCE IMPOSED. ALL 21 DEFENDANTS WERE CIVILIANS ACCUSED OF BEING MIR MEMBERS OR SYMPATHIZERS AND OF PARTICIPATING IN UNLAWFUL ACTS AFTER RPT AFTER SEPT. 11 COUP.

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3. LOCAL ICRC REPS CONFIRMED TO EMBOFFS JUNE 13 THAT A TRIAL OF SOME 30 "MIRISTAS" IS INDEED NOW TAKING PLACE IN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE (SANTIAGO 3262). TRIAL IS NOT OPEN TO PUBLIC OR OBSERVERS. ACCORDING TO ICRC INFORMATION, PROSECUTOR IS REQUESTING DEATH PENALTY IN TWO CASES. NO ADDITIONAL PUBLIC MENTION OF TRIAL HAS YET APPEARED.

4. NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS ON MAJOR AIR FORCE (FACH I) TRIAL WHICH CONCLUDED PUBLIC SESSIONS JUNE 7. "CHARACTER WITNESSES" HAVE PRESUMABLY NOW BEEN HEARD, AND TRIBUNAL MEMBERS ARE CONSIDERING THEIR VERDICTS.

5. FIRST PUBLIC MENTION OF LONG-RUMORED "SECOND PHASE" OF FACH I TRIAL (SANTIAGO 2281) CONTAINED IN JUNE 11 STORY IN DAILY LA TERCERA. STORY SPECULATED TRIAL WILL COMMENCE IN "A COUPLE OF MONTHS."

THOMPSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 14 JUN 1974
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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